emission standards on a time-bound basis;

(vi) A network on ambient air and water quality monitoring stations have been set up. Remedial measures are taken on the basis of any deterioration in their ability;

(vii) Financial incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas and also for utilisation of solid waste such as fly-ash and phospho-gypsum;

(viii) A notification making environmental statement mandatory has been issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. As per this notification all polluting units seeking consent are required to submit an environmental statement to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards;

(ix) A scheme on adoption of clean technologies by the small scale industries and to extend necessary technological support has been prepared;

(x) Gross and mass emission standards for all types of vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989;

(xi) Steps have been initiated to introduce compressed natural gas (CNG) as an alternative fuel in Delhi and Bombay.

(c) and (d) The industrial towns of Visakhapattanam and Bollaram-Pattancheru have been identified as critically polluted areas. A time-targeted action plan has been prepared for prevention and control of pollution and this is being implemented through the Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board. A scheme for construction of common effluent Treatment Plant for clusters of water polluting industries is under implementation in Bollaram and Pattancheru.

Survey of Tree Growth Timber Resources

1603. **SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have conducted any survey on the ground survey of actual tree-growth and timber resources in East and West Godavary Districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the local forest Department has not given cooperation in the survey;

(c) what measures are proposed to be taken to post special pickets on roads leading away from the forest ranges of East Godavari and West Godavari districts in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) what was the reaction of local forests department to the idea of stationing road pickets which would be manned by forest staff;

(e) whether they were against the idea of road pickets; and

(f) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Forest survey of India makes an assessment of forest cover in the country once in two years. State Governments including Andhra Pradesh have extended full cooperation for this.

(c) One new check post is opened at Mugulla on the way to Sithanagaram from Rajahmundry.

Three check posts are stationed between Davipatnam and Rajahmundry. One check post at Kovvuru also exists on the road from Polavaram to Rajahmundry.

(d) to (f) The State Forest

Department has welcomed the suggestion of putting more check gates.

Air Pollution in Metropolitan Cities

1604. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Madras Calcutta and Bombay are affected by serious air pollution;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the growing pollution; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to eliminate the hazards of pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Venicular and industrial emissions are the main causes of pollution in cities. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur, has carried out ambient air quality monitoring in ten major cities of India viz. Ahmedabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Cochin, Madras and Nagpur in collaboration with Central Pollution Control Board. According to the air quality survey, the levels of sulphurdioxide & nitrogen oxides in Delhi, Madras, Calcutta and Bombay are within the prescribed limits, while the level of suspended particulate matter in these cities are on the higher side, which is due to the natural dusty conditions and increasing density of vehicular traffic.

(c) The steps taken to eliminate the hazards of pollution in these cities include the following:—

(i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(ii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.

(iii) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards.

(iv) Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment on a time-bound basis and legal action is taken againt the defaulting units.

(v) 17 categories of heavily polluting industries have been identified and these industries have been asked by the Stae Governments to comply with the effluents/ emission standards on a time-bound basis.

(vi) Financial incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and shifting of polluting industries from congested areas as also for utilisation of solid waste such as fly ash and phospho-gypsum.

(vii) Gross and mass emission standards for all types of vehicles have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(viii) A draft notification notifying the mass emission standards for 1995 and indicative standards for 2000 for all vehicles has been issued under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(ix) Steps have been initiated to introduce compressed natural gas (CNG) as an alternative fuel in Delhi and Bombay. This will arrest the increasing trend of nitorgen oxide in these cities.

Scheme to Chalk out Environmental Audit in Industries

1605. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been chalked out for conducting environmental audit in selected industries belonging to heavily polluting industrial